



Fort Sam Houston

News Leader®



Vol. 36, No. 47

Fort Sam Houston — Home of Army Medicine

November 26, 2003

Briefs

FSH Commissary extends hours during holidays

Now through Dec. 31 the FSH Commissary will close at 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 7 p.m. on Sunday.

SJA Officer closed Nov. 27-28

The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Claims Division, Legal Assistance Office will be closed Nov. 27-28. In case of an emergency, call the On-Call Officer at 286-6227.

Tree Lighting Ceremony, Dec. 2

The traditional tree lighting ceremony will be held at the main post flagpole on Stanley Road Dec. 2, 6 p.m. The Medical Command Band will play a medley of holiday music. The public is invited.

A-76 Townhall Meetings, Dec. 3

Attention U.S. Army Garrison employees, there will be two FSH A-76 Townhall meetings Dec. 3, 10 to 11:30 a.m. and 2 to 3:30 p.m. at Evans Auditorium.

Christmas Along the Corridor Pony Express, Dec. 6

The 15th annual Christmas Along the Corridor Pony Express celebration will be held Dec. 6, 1-5 p.m. at MacArthur parade field. The public is invited.

U.S. Army Medical Command Band Holiday Concert, Dec. 18

FSH presents a Holiday Concert featuring the U.S. Army Medical Command Band Dec. 18, 7:30 p.m. at the Scottish Rite Cathedral, Ave. E at 4th Street.



Photo by Esther Garcia

Members from the 628th Forward Surgical Team return home following a 10-month deployment to Iraq. The unit was assigned to Baghdad to support the 82nd Airborne Division and the 1st Armored Division. See more on Page 17.

Bush signs Authorization Act

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

Calling it a landmark piece of legislation that sends the clear message that “Americans stand with the United States military,” President Bush signed the fiscal 2004 National Defense Authorization Act in a Pentagon ceremony on Monday.

A bipartisan group of legislators and

DoD’s civilian and uniformed leaders flanked him.

The act authorizes DoD to spend \$401.3 billion in the fiscal year that began Oct. 1. “We will do all it takes to keep our military strong, to keep the peace and to keep the American people secure,” Bush said.

The money is in addition to the \$87 billion supplemental bill passed earlier

this month. “The war on terror is different than any war America has ever fought,” the president said. “Our enemies seek to inflict mass casualties without fielding mass armies. They hide in the shadows, and they are often hard to strike. The terrorists are cunning and ruthless and dangerous, as the world saw on Sept. 11, 2001, and again in Istanbul last week.”

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Clark to assume command of Fifth U.S. Army

By Master Sgt. C.S. Allbright
Fifth Army Public Affairs Office

An assumption of command and promotion ceremony will be conducted for the incoming commanding general of Fifth U.S. Army, Dec. 5, 10 a.m. at the headquarters building located in the historic Quadrangle here.

Maj. Gen. Robert T. Clark will assume command after performing duties as the acting commander since the Aug. 7 retirement of former commander, Lt. Gen. Freddy E. McFarren. At the ceremony, Clark will also receive his third star, marking his promotion to lieutenant general. General Larry R. Ellis, U.S. Forces

Command commanding general, will host the ceremony.

The U.S. Senate confirmed Clark’s promotion Nov. 18 after a lengthy process that was stalled for more than a year in the Senate Armed Services Committee. After a debate before the full Senate, the senators overwhelming approved his nomination by voice-vote, with only a couple of senators voicing opposition.

The Fifth U.S. Army has the mission of providing training assistance and support for National Guard and Reserve units in preparation for war and other missions. Fifth U.S. Army has the additional missions of preparing to mobilize and deploy Reserve Component units, planning for

the security and key assets protection of the central, western, and southwestern United States and, on order, providing assistance to civilian authorities during peacetime crises. Fifth U.S. Army’s area of responsibility is comprised of 21 states west of the Mississippi River, excluding Minnesota.

Clark has been the deputy-commanding general of Fifth U.S. Army since 2000. He will become Fifth U.S. Army’s 38th commanding general, which dates its history to World War II. Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark (no relation) was the first commander, and he served January 1943-December 1944. Fifth Army was activated in Morocco to

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Maj. Gen. Robert T. Clark

28th Combat Support Hospital Soldier invents life-saving device

Story and photo by Sgt. Mark Bell
372nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

What do cardboard, plastic pipe, tape and a hair dryer have in common? Probably nothing, but add Staff Sgt. Adam R. Irby into the equation and you get an effective life-saving device proven in combat situations.

As the 25-year-old ward master, from Yorktown, Va., for the Surgical Intensive Care Unit of the 28th Combat Support Hospital, from Fort Bragg, N.C., which is currently deployed in support of Operation Iraq Freedom, Irby said they needed something to warm patients who have lost a large amount of blood.

The result is a makeshift blue card-

board box, which resembles a young child’s playhouse, but is more commonly known to staff at the 28th CSH as the “Chief Cuddler.”

“We receive critically-injured patients who often suffer from mass amounts of blood loss,” Irby said. “With blood loss the patient’s temperature will start to drop. With this drop in temperature the patients lack the ability to stop the internal bleeding.”

Dr. (Capt.) Tracey Lyon, 32, from Wilton, Conn., a 28th CSH staff anesthesiologist, said the body needs heat to allow blood to clot.

The “Chief Cuddler” has been used most recently on Nov. 18 to raise an American Soldier’s body heat by six

degrees – adding to the names of Soldiers able to live to tell their story.

Before Irby’s invention, the SICU ward used conventional methods of warming a patient with many blankets and lamps. “This was not a timely or effective method,” he said.

With the help of Maj. Michael W. Greenly, 36, from North Olmsted, Ohio, the head nurse of the SICU, Irby’s innovative and creative side came into good use.

Greenly then approached Irby with a hair dryer to see if there could be better way the common household device could be used to warm patients.

“He’s a jack-of-all-trades,” Greenly said about Irby. “He can take an ordinary

item and turn it into anything we need to accomplish the mission.”

Under normal conditions, doctors and surgeons would use a “Bear Hugger” blanket, which incorporates small ventilation pipes distributing warm air around the patient, said Lyon.

She said the hospital has been waiting four months for the arrival of the blankets, which cost more than \$900 each. In the mean time, the “Chief Cuddler” has been working hard to save lives.

“I constructed the ‘Chief Cuddler’ out of old cardboard boxes and Greenly’s hair dryer,” Irby said. “It creates a micro-environment of about 105 degrees and will bring a patient from about 90 to 98.6

See **Device** on Page 3

‘Click It or Ticket,’ no exceptions, no excuses

Fort Sam Houston Military Police will join more than 13,000 law enforcement agencies in the national “Click It or Ticket” Mobilization, which runs from Nov. 17-30. Failure to wear a seatbelt is not only against the law in Texas it is mandatory on military installations.

Nationwide, safety belt use is the highest it has ever been at 79 percent, but that still leaves nearly 60 million Americans, mainly teens and young adults, risking their lives by driving unbuckled. The message being sent this holiday season is “If you won’t buckle up to save your life, then buckle up to save yourself a ticket.” This year, nearly 8,000 Americans, adults and children, will die in crashes because they failed to buckle their seat belts.

In four days, MPs have issued more than 61 tickets for not using seat belts since the kickoff on Nov. 17. During the “Click It or Ticket” Mobilization, Military Police will continue to

intensify enforcement of child passenger safety laws, seat belt laws and impaired driving laws by having random inspections during the two-week period. Drivers failing to restrain themselves and their child passengers will be ticketed according to the law.

In Texas, children younger than four years of age or less than 36 inches in height, must be secured in a child passenger safety seat system during the operation of the vehicle. Older children should be restrained by a safety belt, or ideally by a child safety booster seat. Persons at least 15 years of age, riding in the front seat while the vehicle is in operation, must wear a safety belt. Maximum fines for violations of the safety belt laws are \$200. Persons younger than 18 years riding in the open bed of a pickup truck can also be cited.

Source: Fort Sam Houston Law Enforcement Command.



Courtesy photo
A Fort Sam Houston Military Police officer warns a motorist about mandatory seat belt laws on post.

Fort Sam Houston News Leader

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Act

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But the terrorists now are facing the United States and its allies, “and this threat to civilization will be defeated,” Bush said.

The new threats mean the U.S. military must be fast, smart and agile, the president said. “Right now, America’s armed forces are the best-trained, best-equipped and best-prepared in the world, and this administration will keep it that way.”

Bush said the legislation supports the force with an across-the-board pay raise that averages 4.1 percent. It extends the current payment of \$225 and \$250 per month for hazardous duty/imminent danger pay and separation pay. It reduces housing costs for those living off post, and it keeps up the robust bonus-pay program that has served the all-volunteer force so well.

“Those who risk their lives for our liberty deserve to be fairly paid and fairly treated, and this bill keeps those commitments,” Bush said.

The legislation helps America remain prepared and fully equipped for unseen challenges. “In our new struggle, challenges can emerge suddenly, and so we must always be ready,” Bush said. The bill fully funds operations and maintenance accounts and amends some environmental laws that had an adverse effect on realistic training for America’s military.

“The Congress has authorized the full \$9.1 billion that I requested for ballistic missile defense,” Bush said. “The spread of ballistic missile technology, along with the spread of weapons of mass destruction, is a terrible danger to America and the world. We must have the tools and the technologies to properly protect our people.”

In introducing Bush, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld called the legislation “transformational.” The

president agreed. “This bill also advances the vital work of transforming the personnel system for civilian defense workers so we can put the right person in the right job to meet the challenges we face,” he said.

Bush pointed out the department’s nearly 700,000 civilian workers have been laboring under “a cumbersome, inefficient system designed for another century.”

The National Security Personnel System gives DoD managers the flexibility to place civilian workers where they are most needed without needless delay, Bush said. The bill reduces the time it takes to hire new people, and it introduces pay for performance bonuses and streamlines the promotion process.

“These are landmark reforms — the most ambitious of their kind in a quarter of a century,” the president said. “To win the war on terror, America must fully utilize the skill and talents of everyone who serves their country, and this bill will help us achieve that goal.”

Bush said everyone associated with the Defense Department is involved in a great and historic task. “And the stakes for our country could not be higher,” he said. “We face enemies that measure their progress by the chaos they inflict, the fear they spread and the innocent lives they destroy.

“America’s military is standing between our country



DoD photo by Tech. Sgt. Andy Dunaway, U.S. Air Force President George W. Bush signs the Fiscal Year 2004 Defense Authorization Bill for a record \$401 billion during a short ceremony at the Pentagon Nov. 24. Sen. Susan Collins, Marine Corps Commandant Gen. Michael Hagee, Rep. Duncan Hunter and Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Peter Schoomaker look on as Bush signs the bill into law.

and grave danger,” he continued. “You are standing for order, hope and democracy in Afghanistan and Iraq. You’re standing up for the security of all free nations and for the advance of freedom. The American people and your commander in chief are grateful, and we will support you in all your central missions.”

Clark

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fight in North Africa and through the Italian campaign where the unit sustained 602 days of continuous fighting.

Before becoming deputy commander of Fifth U.S. Army in 2000, Clark served as the commanding general of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and Fort Campbell, Ky.

Clark, who is a Texas native and graduate of Texas Tech University, was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1970.

His combat assignments include positions as platoon leader and later executive officer of A Company, 2nd Infantry Battalion, 8th Cavalry, 3rd Brigade (Separate), 1st Cavalry Division, in the Republic of Vietnam, July 1971-April 1972. Nearly two decades of service later, Clark commanded the 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), from Fort Campbell, in Operations Desert Shield/Storm. In peacetime, he served at various military installations in increasing

levels of responsibility.

In 1995, Clark was promoted to brigadier general and served as the deputy commanding general and assistant commandant of the United States Army Infantry Center and School, Fort Benning, Ga.

His awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit with four oak leaf clusters, Bronze Star Medal with “V” device, Bronze Star Medal with oak leaf cluster, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal with three oak

leaf clusters, Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, Ranger Tab, and Army Staff Identification Badge.

Clark, who graduated from San Antonio’s Douglas MacArthur High School, is married to the former Karen Anne Chandler of San Antonio, and they have a daughter, Anne C. Jordan of Nashville, Tenn., and son, Robert Clark Jr. of Dallas.

Device

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degrees in about three hours, almost a three-fold decrease in time.”

Lyon said patients with low-body temperatures are unable to coagulate, and in this case, little cuts can kill a patient. Warming the body is the primary way of helping the body stop bleeding, she said. “It’s awesome and it works,” she said looking at the awkward-looking blue box off to the side in the intensive care unit hallway. “It definitely has saved some lives.”

Irby said the box creates a small medical greenhouse, which allows the patient to stop bleeding on his or her own and allows for a more stable transport out of country.

“We have seen Soldiers safely evacuated to Germany, where we know they will receive definitive treatment and be able to see their families, thanks to all the personnel who work in the 28th CSH,” he said.

Already, the “Chief Cuddler” has assisted in saving over 20 lives since its creation, he said. Those lives are documented on the outside cover with each patient’s number, and the date and time it was used.

Irby said he gets the most satisfaction from his job when he is able to save a life of a Soldier who has been injured on the battlefield.

“The most important aspect of my job is that I am able to keep a highly critical-care area functioning,” he said. “I enable



Staff Sgt. Adam R. Irby, 25, from Yorktown, Va., the ward master for the Surgical Intensive Care Unit of the 28th Combat Support Hospital, from Fort Bragg, N.C., puts the “Chief Cuddler” over a critical patient, in Baghdad, Nov. 18.

the officers and enlisted Soldiers to accomplish the great care they provide to the Soldiers who are injured defending us on the frontline.”

Additionally, Irby is responsible for maintaining expensive and sensitive medical equipment and ensuring that his staff has the critical supplies they need to accomplish the mission.

“He’s awesome because he is clinically competent,” Greenly said about Irby. “He knows how everything works, and he

knows the needs of the hospital. Because he knows what we need, he is able to modify equipment to accomplish the mission.”

Just as important, Irby enjoys being a mentor. “I also provide guidance to my enlisted Soldiers, and ensure that they leave here a more knowledgeable health care provider,” he said.

For Irby, being in Iraq for the past eight months has been what he has been training to do since joining the Army.

Providing care, not only to American Soldiers, but also to Iraqi civilians and detainees, has been a challenge.

“We have seen Iraqi civilians, who were in the wrong place at the wrong time, go from completely on life support, to be able to leave here and go back to their own families,” he said. “We have seen Iraqi detainees treated here, where the information they will provide may be more valuable in allowing the U.S. to accomplish its mission and send its Soldiers back home.”

Although patients will probably never see or interact with Irby, for him, knowing there are families waiting for the injured Soldiers’ safe return back to loved ones is enough thanks and gratitude.

Watching Irby, one could easily guess him for a quiet Soldier who shows up to work each day doing a job he loves.

“This guy is the epitome of any non-commissioned officer,” Greenly said. “His selfless service shows in his Soldiers. It’s very obvious he is a Soldier’s Soldier.”

If you ask Irby who he is, he’s an everyday Soldier working on his small part of the mission to return Iraq to normal.

“I am just a common-sense guy who tries to leave a positive mark wherever I go,” he said. “I try to do what is right for my Soldiers, the Soldiers we treat, and the unit by trying to implement even the smallest of changes that will better our capabilities.”

BAMC and MADD mobilize to remind drivers not to drink and drive

As families and friends come together all over San Antonio and Fort Sam Houston, Texas, to celebrate this holiday season, Brooke Army Medical Center wants drivers to know that if they choose to drink and drive, they will lose -- possibly in more ways than one.

- Facts on drunk driving:**
- 40 percent of all traffic fatalities nationwide are alcohol-related; Texas leads the nation at 50 percent of their traffic fatalities being alcohol-related.
 - 1,561 people were killed in alcohol-related crashes between Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve in 2002.
 - In 2002, alcohol and lack of safety belt usage claimed the lives of 2,464 people between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day across the United States. Thousands more suffer injuries.
 - In 2002, 17,419 people in America were killed in alcohol-related crashes, an average of one every 30 minutes.
 - An estimated half a million people are injured in alcohol-related crashes each year, an average of 59 people per hour or approximately one person every minute.
 - Economic costs of alcohol-related crashes cost the public an estimated \$114.3 billion annually this includes an estimated \$63.2 billion lost in quality of

- life due to these crashes.
- Every weeknight from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m., one in 13 drivers are drunk. Between 1 and 6 a.m. on weekend mornings, one in seven drivers is drunk.
 - It is estimated that three in every five Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some time in their lives. In 2002, motor vehicle crashes were the leading cause of death for people from 2-33 years old.
- Help keep our roads safe:**
- Tie a MADD ribbon to a visible place on your vehicle as a symbol of your commitment to drive safely and soberly.
 - Buckle-up because it is the best defense against a drunk driver.
 - Always designate a non-drinking driver if your outing involves alcohol.
 - Be a responsible party host. Never serve alcohol to those under 21. Instead, offer non-alcoholic beverages, serve high-protein snacks, and provide alternative transportation or accommodations to guests who have been drinking.
 - Support community efforts to stop drunk driving and underage drinking.
- Call your MADD chapter or log-on to MADD's Web site at www.MADD.org
- Tie One On ... For Safety Campaign**

That is why BAMC and the Fort Sam Houston Safety Office, the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma and Mothers Against Drunk Driving have partnered together to support the Tie One On For Safety campaign. MADD's Tie One On For Safety campaign encourages motorists to tie a red ribbon to a visible place on their vehicles as a symbol of their commitment to drive safely and soberly during the holidays. This year the new Tie One On For Safety Message calls for commitment to buckle-up because a seat belt is the best defense against a drunk driver. This public safety campaign asks the public to be active partners in the fight

against drunk driving and reminds other drivers to do the same.

This holiday season, do your part -- don't drink and drive. If you do plan to drink, plan ahead and arrange for a designated driver or take a cab. Drinking and driving violates the safety of our community. Join BAMC and Fort Sam Houston in taking a stand against impaired driving by supporting the Tie One On For Safety campaign. Pick up your ribbon at BAMC entrances and the Emergency Department. Ribbons will be available throughout the holiday season. For more information, call Michelle Aguilar, RN, Trauma Coordinator, BAMC, 916-0324.



Automation will solve deployed Soldier's pay problems

By Eric W. Cramer
Army News Service

The Army is working on immediate actions to eliminate the pay problems of deployed Soldiers, and long-term solutions are also underway.

"The basic pay and allowances for most Soldiers is there. It's the situation-unique entitlements based on location, dependent status, special skills -- these are the one's that, because they require additional documentation and inputs, fall through the cracks," said Eric Reid, chief of Finance & Accounting Oversight and Field Operations Division, U.S. Army Finance Command.

Reid said most difficulties lie in special entitlements built into the pay process.

"For example, the day a Soldier steps in country, he starts receiving hostile fire pay. He also is eligible for hardship duty pay location (HDP-L), but although his time starts on the first day, he has to be there for 30 days to be eligible. After 30 days, it's paid retroactively to the first day. He is also eligible for a combat zone tax exemption, and possibly for a family



separation allowance. For some entitlements, the finance technician must input it in the system on a monthly basis," Reid said.

"The hardship duty pay is an example, they have to do an input every month for that entitlement," he said.

This issue becomes even more complex for Soldiers who are in specialized units like Special Forces, who receive special entitlements including jump pay and extra pay for doing high-altitude, low-opening jumps. "But there aren't that many Soldiers who do those things," Reid said.

In addition to the hardship duty pay for Soldiers in theater, he said there is one other major entitlement that must be entered separately each month for most Soldiers, the Continental United States Cost of Living Allowance, or CONUS/COLA.

"Yes, the GAO (General Accounting Office) used a case study technique which focused on only Special Forces and MP units, but I can tell you there are similar problems across the board that we're working to address," Reid said.

He said most problems occur for

reserve component Soldiers when they are either initially mobilizing or when they return from mobilization.

"There are some issues where there are delays in getting them in the system when they mobilize and off the system when they're demobilized," Reid said.

He said that in the case of the 19th Special Forces, 5th Battalion, Company B, studied by the GAO, the problem was primarily human error, first by the demobilization station not stopping pay and then at home station when a technician used the wrong transaction to correct the problem.

"We're providing additional training to reduce the chance of these errors happening," he said. "Additionally, input systems are already being changed to warn a user before executing potential errors like the one that occurred with the 19th Special Forces."

Reid said the Defense Finance and Accounting Service sent a team to Iraq to help the finance personnel there learn to use their systems more effectively. He said a planned move to an integrated pay system for both active and reserve component Soldiers will automate many of the special entitlements by spring of 2005.

In the interim, plans call for immediate

and near-term efforts to increase training, enhance procedural guidance, and provide some limited changes to the existing pay system. The plans include automation of hardship duty pay, the largest non-automated pay for the theater, in April 2004. A mid-term period beginning in six months and running to 36 months from now, will address pay account access and the development of a "Forward Compatible Pay system" that will integrate active and reserve component pay systems. The long-range period, beginning in three years, includes the development and fielding of the Defense Integrated Military Human Resources System that will integrate the active and reserve component pay functions with personnel functions into a single process.

He said the plans will begin to solidify soon.

"The HDP-L is scheduled for automation earlier, in April of 2004. That will alleviate a potential source of error," Reid said. "What we're doing now is a lot of things to help Soldiers using the current infrastructure. The long-term automated solutions will happen in that mid-term period, when we get the integrated active and reserve component pay system. That will be the first time we've ever had that."

USO teams up with entertainers to support troops during holidays

By 1st Lt. Steve Alvarez
American Forces Press Service

The United Service Organizations recently announced it has teamed up with Armed Forces Entertainment and Reader's Digest to help support U.S. troops during the 2003 holiday season.

The USO, a nonprofit charitable corporation that extends a touch of home to military members, will soon send entertainer Wayne Newton, actor/director Gary Sinise, singer/television star Chris Isaak, country music star Neal McCoy and members of the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders to entertain troops stationed in the Persian Gulf between now and the end of the year.

The troupe will perform several shows, visit with service members, and

tour duty stations at a number of locations in the region. This tour marks the seventh tour in the last two years for Newton, who is the USO's Celebrity Circle chairman. Newton has entertained troops since the Vietnam War and in June he participated in the first USO tour to Iraq.

Sinise, Isaak, and McCoy are also veteran USO performers. The Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders have joined with the USO 53 times over the last 25 years and have performed on more USO tours than any other entertainment group.

Additionally, the USO is working with Reader's Digest in an effort known as "Operation Desert Smile," which it hopes will bring 5,000 gift bags to troops in Iraq in time for the holidays. Reader's Digest advertisers have donated more

than \$500,000 worth of snacks, prepaid calling cards, toiletries, magazines, books and compact discs to support the effort.

"The USO is grateful to Reader's Digest and its advertisers for their generosity," USO President and CEO Edward A. Powell said. "Banding together to bring needed items to our troops, especially during the holidays, exemplifies the American spirit of supporting and remembering our men and women in uniform," he added.

As part of their holiday push to support U.S. service personnel overseas, the USO is urging Americans to support "Operation Phone Home." The program helps make international calling cards available for each U.S. service member stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan in time

for the holidays.

"Giving these men and women in uniform the opportunity to speak with their loved ones over the holidays will provide an immeasurable boost to their morale," Powell said. "The USO's mission is to improve the quality of life for our troops and serve as a link between them and the American people. It is our way of giving back to those who give their all," he added.

Since April, the USO's "Operation Phone Home" has raised more than \$200,000 and delivered nearly 30,000 calling cards to service members.

Donations can be made by visiting the USO Web site at www.uso.org or by calling 1-800-876-7469. Callers should specify their gift is for the "USO Operation Phone Home" campaign.

Veteran presented awards at Leadership Call

Story and photo by Phil Reidinger
Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs

Brig. Gen. Daniel F. Perugini, Army Medical Department Center and School and Fort Sam Houston commander presented World War II veteran Randolph Coleman the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart and the Combat Infantryman’s Badge during the command Leadership Call on Thursday. His wife, Betty, stood with him during the awards presentation.

Coleman served as a sergeant in the European Theater as a member of Company F, 517th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 13th Airborne Division. He entered the Army April 18, 1943, at Fort Sam Houston. When he entered the Army he wanted to go into Airborne School, so he was placed on a list until they could accumulate 22 volunteers. When he left Fort Sam Houston, he traveled to Camp Toccoa, Ga., for initial airborne training screening. Out of the 22 Soldiers who volunteered, by the end of a day of entrance

training for the course only two made it. So he had to wait until 22 volunteers were found acceptable to begin training.

Following basic infantry training and parachute school, Coleman was sent by boat to Europe where they landed in Italy in an old volcanic crater. He was involved in the Fall of Rome, spearheaded by Gen. Mark Clark, 5th Army, which included 3rd Division and 26th Division, where he earned his Combat Infantry Badge. On August 15, 1944, he parachuted into southern France and saw 93 days of combat in that area. When he jumped into France August 15, 1944, the Germans had put up poles designed to stop gliders and paratroopers from jumping. When he jumped, he hooked his arm over one of the poles and his chute collapsed, forcing him to make a free fall landing.

Coleman was honorably discharged from the Army on June 22, 1945. Following his military career he graduated law school and enjoyed a successful law career.



Brig. Gen. Daniel F. Perugini presents the Purple Heart and Bronze Star medals to World War II veteran Randolph Coleman. Coleman served as an infantry sergeant with the 517th Parachute Infantry Regiment. Perugini also presented Coleman the Combat Infantryman’s Badge. Coleman, with his wife Betty, attended the Army Medical Department Center and School Leadership Call on Nov. 20.

Why wear seatbelts?

- Newer seatbelt design allows total freedom of motion while driving.
 - People who are thrown from cars are 25 times more likely to be killed than if they had been held securely in their seats.
 - 80 percent of all serious injuries and fatalities occur in cars going 40 miles per hour or slower.
 - In the unlikely event your car catches fire or is submerged, seatbelts can keep you from getting “knocked out” and greatly improve your chances of escape.
 - You may be a good driver, but there are situations beyond your control such as weather and road conditions that can affect your safety.
 - Seatbelts are 57 percent effective in preventing traumatic and fatal brain injuries.
 - According to the National Highway and Traffic Safety Administration, over the last 10 years, safety belts have prevented some 55,600 deaths, 1,300,000 injuries and saved more than \$105 billion in costs.
- Source: Fort Sam Houston Safety Office



Army still looking for volunteer corporal recruiters

Army News Service

The U.S. Army Human Resources Command is still looking for volunteers for the Corporal Recruiting Program.

The program began in 1999 on a trial basis and since has allowed privates first class and specialists to do one-year recruiting tours to tell the Army story.

“I feel that I’m doing as well as my counterparts with my youth and familiarity of the community being my biggest asset,” said Cpl. Nicholas Sholty of the Baltimore Recruiting Battalion.

Shotly was born in Boonsboro, Md., where he attended and graduated from Boonsboro High School in 1999. He was interviewed by a recruiter once in high school, but decided to walk in and join the

Army in Sept. 2000 on his own after one year at the Hagerstown Community College.

After attending entry-level training at Fort Benning, Ga. he was assigned to 17th Signal Battalion, Kitzingen, Germany, as a radio operator. He joined the corporal recruiting program five months ago. He has enlisted six soldiers so far; two from his high school, two old friends and two people he met while prospecting.

He is currently assigned to the Hagerstown recruiting station in the vicinity of Boonsboro.

The volunteer corporal recruiting program is open to interested privates first class and specialists who meet recruiter qualifications as out-

lined in Army Regulation 601-1.

The qualification criteria can be accessed via the Internet at www.USAPA.ARMY.MIL/PDFFILES/R601_1.PDF.

Additionally, Soldiers must be single and have at least 24 months time remaining in service upon signing in at their Recruiting unit.

The U.S. Army Human Resources Command will make the final corporal recruiter selections. Once selected, applicants will be scheduled for a six-week recruiting course at Fort Jackson, S.C.

Corporal recruiters are assigned to recruiting areas near their hometowns. Other incentives include 38 promotions points for completing the recruiting course, \$450 a month in special-duty pay and the opportunity to select their next overseas assignment or assignment to any U.S.-based installation with at corps or division.

Those interested in applying should contact their Retention NCO or call Sgt. 1st Class Mark Johnson at DSN 221-7902 or commercial (703) 325-7902 at Human Resources Command, Alexandria, Va.

Notice to all generators, reutilization or sales customers

DRMO San Antonio announces the following amended hours of operation:

- Nov. 26, Turn ins, RTD by appointment only. Call 221-3657, 221-3651 or 221-3662 to schedule appointment.
- Nov. 27 and 28 closed in observance of Thanksgiving holiday.

For information, call Barbara Roberts at 221-3738 or Mary Rocha at 221-3657.

BAMC Accreditation Notice


The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations will conduct an accreditation survey of Brooke Army Medical Center on Dec. 15-19. The purpose of the survey will be to evaluate the organization’s compliance with nationally established Joint Commission standards. The survey results will be used to determine whether, and the conditions under which accreditation should be awarded the organization.

Joint Commission standards deal with organizational quality of care issues and the safety of the environment in which care is provided. Anyone believing that he or she has pertinent and valid information about such matters may request a public information interview with the Joint Commission’s field representatives at the time of the survey. Information presented at the interview will be carefully evaluated for relevance to the accreditation process. Requests for a public information interview must be made


in writing and should be sent to the Joint Commission no later than five working days before the survey begins. The request must also indicate the nature of the information to be provided at the interview. Such requests should be addressed to: Division of Accreditation Operations Office of Quality Monitoring Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, One Renaissance Boulevard, Oakbrook Terrace, Ill., 60181 or, faxed to (630)792-5636, or e-mail to complaint@jcaho.org.


The Joint Commission will acknowledge such requests in writing or by telephone and will inform the organization of the request for any interview. The organization will, in turn, notify the interviewee of the date, time, and place of the meeting.

This notice is posted in accordance with the Joint Commission’s requirements and may not be removed before the survey is complete.



WANT TO BECOME A WARRANT OFFICER?







The United States Army is looking for highly motivated soldiers to fill its Warrant Officer ranks. Positions are open in all 45 specialties if you qualify. Soldiers with less than 12 years active federal service (AFS) are encouraged to apply.

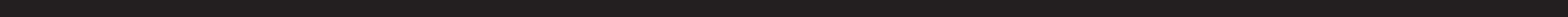
For more information, contact the Warrant Officer Recruiting Team at

www.usarec.army.mil/warrant

(502) 626-0484/0458/0488/0478/1860.







Holiday Ball

“A Season of Remembrance and Giving”

Dec. 5, 6 p.m.

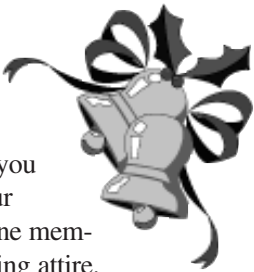
at the Fort Sam Houston NCO Club

Tickets coming soon...\$22 per person includes:

- Dinner and dessert
- Wine
- Entertainment
- Door prizes

Dress: Military - Dress Uniform - If you are a service member attending with your spouse, who is also a service member, one member of the couple may wear formal evening attire.
Civilian - Formal evening attire.

Note: Bring a new unwrapped toy to support Holiday Helping Hands.



The Commander
United States Army Garrison Fort Sam Houston
presents

A Holiday Concert

Featuring

The United States Army Medical Command Band

7:30 PM
18 December 2003
Scottish Rite Cathedral
Avenue E at 4th Street
San Antonio
Texas



Thanksgiving Day Post Dining Facilities schedule

The sharing of Thanksgiving Day meals with family members and guests in dining facilities is a long-standing Army tradition. All active duty officers and enlisted personnel may purchase the Thanksgiving Day meal for \$5.25. Spouse and authorized family members of E-5 and above may purchase the meal for \$5.25. Spouse and authorized family members of E-4 and below may purchase meal for \$4.55. Guests of military members and retirees will pay \$5.25.

Menu - A traditional turkey dinner will be served at the midday meal, which will include shrimp cocktail, assorted salads, turkey, ham, beef, pumpkin, mincemeat, and assorted fruit pies, eggnog, and much more.

The Garrison dining facilities of Fort Sam Houston, and Camp Bullis will observe special Thanksgiving Day hours as noted below:

Dining Facility No. 1, Bldg. 2745, FSH

Breakfast	8-9:30 a.m.
Lunch	Noon to 1:30 p.m.
Dinner	4:30-6 p.m.

Dining Facility No. 2, Bldg. 1377, FSH


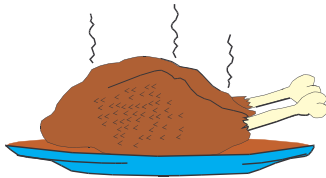
Breakfast	7:30-9:30 a.m.
Lunch	Noon to 2 p.m.
Dinner	5:30-7:30 p.m.

***Dining Facility No. 4, Bldg. 5107, Camp Bullis**

Breakfast	5:30-7 a.m.
Lunch	11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Dinner	4:30-6 p.m.

***Note:** Thanksgiving Day Meal will be observed at Camp Bullis Dining Facility on Wednesday, Nov. 26. This dining facility will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 27 and re-open on Nov. 28, for the Breakfast meal.

For information, contact Thomas Lara, at 221-5929.



FSH Vet clinic will hold evening ‘Walk-In’ vaccination clinic, Dec. 11

An evening “Walk-In” Vaccination Clinic will be held at the Fort Sam Houston Veterinary Clinic for cats and dogs (no sick call) on Thursday, Dec. 11, 5-8 p.m. To receive services patrons must be active duty, retirees, and family members. Reservists on active duty status will need to bring in a copy of their orders. All regular prices will apply. Call the clinic in advance at 295-4260, so they can prepare records for your pet’s arrival.

FSH Officer’s Club Thanksgiving Buffet

The Fort Sam Houston Officer’s Club will offer a Thanksgiving Buffet from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day. The cost is \$13.95 for club members, \$15.95 for non-members, \$6.95 for children 7-11 and children 6 and under free. Reservations are recommended for parties of eight or more. For reservations, call 224-4211.

Enter the ‘Designated Driver Sweepstakes’

Visit the NCO Club, Golf Club or Bowling Center and enter to win the “Designated Driver Sweepstakes” from Nov. 24 to Jan. 3. Grand prize is an all-expense paid trip for two to attend a Clear Channel concert of your choice, within the 48 contiguous states, during the 2004 concert season. The trip consists of round-trip first class air transportation for two from gateway city nearest winner’s home; double-occupancy hotel accommodations for two nights; two concert tickets; limousine transportation to/from the concert; two invitations to the Sound Check Party for a special opportunity to see the band before the concert and \$500 cash. First place prize is a Budweiser True Friends MP3 Player.

FSH Golf Club Pro Shop Christmas Sale

Come see the exciting array of Christmas gifts and stocking stuffers available in our fully stocked Pro Shop. Starting December 1, 2003 the Pro Shop will be open until 7:30 p.m. daily for your holiday shopping convenience. Special orders may be placed for your Christmas needs. We will be having free gift wrapping for any purchase of \$25.00 or more. Having a hard time choosing just the right gift? Take the guessing out of the shopping and purchase a Gift Certificate. For more information, call 221-4388.

FSH NCO Club presents holiday jazz

Enjoy the sounds of Jazz Artist Michael Ward and Special Guest Kyle Turner on Dec. 13. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and showtime is at 9 p.m. Admission is \$15 per person. The Club will have a free buffet prior to the show for guests from 7-9 p.m. and there will also be a full service bar. Non-military guests are welcome. For more information, call 224-2721.

Visit the new MWR ticket office

The new MWR Ticket Office is located in Bldg. 1395 on Chaffee Road in the Main Entrance of the NCO Club. Hours of operation are Tuesday - Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Office has season passes for Splash Town, Fiesta Texas and tickets for Ripley’s Wax Museum, Imax Theater and San Antonio Tours. For information, call 224-2721.

Thanksgiving Holiday Hours

Officers’ Club

- Open Nov. 27 (Thanksgiving Buffet)
- Closed Nov. 28 thru 30, except for special functions

NCO Club

- Closed Nov. 27 and 28
- Open Nov. 29 – Bingo and special functions only

Golf Club

- Closed Nov. 27

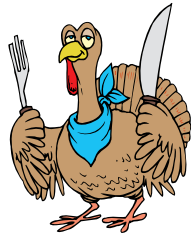
Bowling Center

- Closed Nov. 26 and 27
- Open Nov. 28 from 3 to 9:30 p.m.
- Open Nov. 29 from 2 to 10 p.m.

Harlequin Dinner Theatre

- Closed Nov. 26 and 27

Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving.



Pearl Harbor remembered at Museum of the Pacific in Fredericksburg

On Sunday, Dec. 7 the National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg, Texas, will welcome Texas Governor Rick Perry to remember the heroes of Pearl Harbor during the annual Pearl Harbor Day commemoration ceremony.

As part of the commemoration, the museum staff will honor area military personnel and their families, as a way of showing support and gratitude for the many Americans who -- like the men and women at Pearl Harbor -- are risking their lives to keep our country free and strong.

The Pearl Harbor ceremony begins at 12:25 p.m. outside the George Bush Gallery of the National Museum of the Pacific War on Austin Street. Seating will be available on a first come basis. The ceremony is outdoors, and the program usually lasts 45 minutes.

Also on Dec. 7, the museum will host workshops for children to make holiday cards to send to the troops in Iraq. The workshops will be at 2 and 3 p.m. in the George Bush Galley. The workshop is open to the public without charge.

The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily except Christmas Day. From Dec. 5 through Jan. 5, the museum is offering reduced entry fees for active duty military and their families with current military ID cards. These special fees will be \$3 for adults and \$2.50 for children. For more information about the museum, visit www.nimitz-museum.org.

The holiday season is a wonderful time to visit Fredericksburg. The city, with its small town American spirit, is decked out in holiday finery. From Dec. 5 through 7, the city celebrates Weihnachten, an annual German Christmas festival, complete with a lighted Christmas parade down Main Street. Fredericksburg Herb Farm, Wildseed Farms, Kinderfest at the Pioneer Museum Complex and many other events and attractions make Frederickburg the ideal place for a family weekend. For more information on activities in Frederickburg, visit www.fredericksburg-texas.org.

AFTB upcoming events

Level I Classes, Thursday, Dec. 4, 8:45 a.m. to 3 p.m.

- Military Terms, Acronyms (Break the Code!)
- Chain of Command/Chain of Concern (Who’s in charge?)
- Family and Military Expectations (Great Expectations!)
- Impact of the Mission on Family Life
- Benefits, Entitlements and Compensation
- Introduction to Military/Community Resources
- Supporting Your Child’s Education
- Basic Problem Solving (Show me how to fix it!)
- Certificates



Note: Classes are held in the Roadrunner Community Center, for registration or information, call 221-2705. Registration deadline is Dec. 1.

Level II Classes, 8:45 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 9

- Military Grade and Command Structure 2.04.4
- Traditions, Customs, Courtesies and Protocol 2.04.6
- Benefits, Entitlements, and Compensation 2.04.5
- Working Lunch: Networking with Community Agencies 2.04.1
- Building a Resource Library 2.04.2
- Enhancing Relationship Building 2.01.1
- Management Skills: Conflict Management 2.02.3

Wednesday, Dec. 10

- Management Skills: Communication Skills 2.02.2
- Management Skills: Group Dynamics 2.02.6
- Management Skills: Crisis and Coping 2.02.5
- Working Lunch: Time Management 2.03.4
- Meeting Management 2.03.5
- Introduction to Effective Leadership 2.01.2

Thursday, Dec. 11

- Volunteer Management/Marketing/Experience 2.02.1
- Management Skills: Understanding Needs 2.02.4
- Intermediate Problem Solving 2.03.3
- Working Lunch: Adapting to Change 2.03.1
- Stress Management 2.03.2
- Family Support Groups 2.04.3
- Certificates

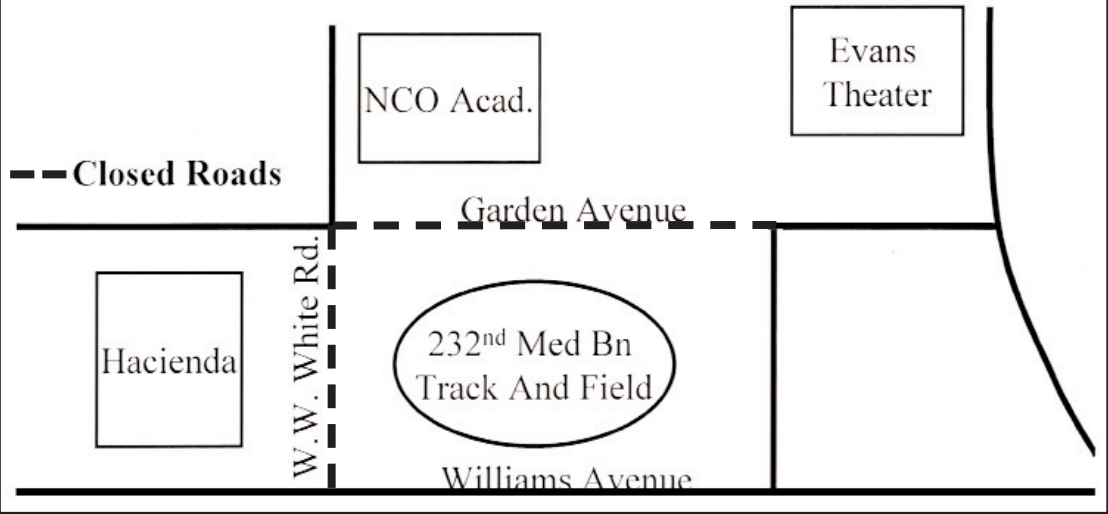
Note: Bring your own lunch, full kitchen available, drinks will be provided.
For registration and more information, call the AFTB Office at 221-2705. Registration deadline is Dec. 3.

Welcome Student Spouses

Attention Student Spouses, an Open House just for you!
Monday, Dec. 1, 10-11 a.m. at the Roadrunner Community Center, 2010 Stanley Rd., Bldg. 2797 (between the tennis courts and SACU Bldg.)
This is a great chance for spouses of students in any of the Army programs at Fort Sam Houston to find out what’s here, who’s here, and why you’re here! Also meet other student spouses and be greeted by Army spouses who will share their own Army experiences with you.
If you have no childcare, bring the kids along as you discover what it’s like to be an Army spouse. There will be welcome folders full of information, giveaways and light snacks. Dress very casual, no R.S.V.P. required.
For information, call the AFTB office at 221-2705.

Brigade Holiday Challenge road closures, Dec. 12

On Dec. 12, 32nd Medical Brigade will be sponsoring the Brigade Holiday Challenge from 5 to 7 a.m. This event will promote honor, pride, esprit de corps, and safety awareness within the 32nd Medical Brigade prior to holiday exodus leave.
During this time the roads depicted below will be closed to all traffic. Additionally, the three battalions will be marching from their respective barracks area to the track beginning at approximately 4:30 a.m. and may cause delays on some of the roads in the brigade area.



Blood is the fluid of life

The BAMC Blood Bank is running critically low of O Negative blood. Akeroyd Blood Donor Center is reaching out to you for your support to accomplish a mission for life.

Contact the Donor Center to lend a helping hand. To donate blood now, call the Akeroyd Blood Donor Center at 295-4655 or 295-4989.



GK tandem parachute jump ‘hard to beat’ SI writer says

By Kathryn Pardo
Army News Service

“Next to hanging out with supermodels at the Sports Illustrated swimsuit-edition photo shoot, this was the best experience of my life,” said senior sportswriter Rick Reilly after doing a tandem parachute jump with the U.S. Army Parachute Team, the Golden Knights.

The tandem jump paired Reilly, a 19-year “Sports Illustrated” veteran and eight-time National Sportswriter of the Year, with the Golden Knights, the Army’s world-champion sport parachuting team on Veterans Day. Reilly will cover the Golden Knights and his tandem in one of his upcoming weekly SI columns: “The Life of Reilly.”

His jump took place from 13,500 feet in the air and at speeds of up to 120 mph. The team landed safely at their drop zone in Raeford, N.C., near Fort Bragg.

Reilly said that the talent and dedication of the Golden Knights shocked and impressed him. To mimic a cliché, he said: “the Army gets more done during 50 seconds of freefall than most people get done all day.”

The Golden Knights are optimistic about what this top media exposure could do for the Army and its athletes.

“The experience opened Mr. Reilly’s eyes that there is a lot more to the military than most people see,” said Lt. Col. Paul

MacNamara, the commander of the Golden Knights. “This in turn will help open the door to Army sports and unique units like the Golden Knights.”

“The average civilian doesn’t know much about Army sports besides the fact that they have a football team,” said Reilly. “I could write a movie with all of this, but all I have is one column!”

The Golden Knights skydive competitively, and they have recently captured medals in both the world and national skydiving championships.

“Our team’s successes epitomize the meaning of ‘An Army of One.’ Each members’ contributions are invaluable to the team,” said Sgt 1st Class Elisa Feldt, who competes in the Style and Accuracy parachuting disciplines.

“We are proud to serve the Army as Golden Knights,” said MacNamara. “It is part of the Golden Knight’s mission as Army ambassadors to keep the Army connected with the American public and to garner support for the Army, and I am thrilled to say that Mr. Reilly’s column should help us do that.”

Not only did the Army’s athletes awe Reilly, but they admired him as well.

“It was truly an honor to take Mr. Reilly up for a skydive,” said Sgt. 1st

Class Billy VanSoelen, Reilly’s tandem instructor and the assistant leader of the Tandem Team.

“There was nothing but positive sentiment on all sides; each group – the Army and SI – got a better appreciation of each other,” said Staff Sgt. Christopher Talbert, a member of the Free Fall Formation Team.

Reilly demonstrated the unique style and sense of humor that has helped him become one of the nation’s premier sportswriter. For example, when asked how he felt about making the jump, Reilly laughed: “Jump? What are you talking about? I didn’t appreciate being pushed!”

VanSoelen hopes that Reilly’s column will open readers’ eyes to the professionalism of the Golden Knights, as well as to the importance of the team’s support to the Army. The Golden Knights dedicate all of their athletic successes to their fellow Soldiers who are deployed throughout the world in places like Iraq and Afghanistan.

VanSoelen expressed optimism that the article will also show SI readers that the



Sports Illustrated columnist Rick Reilly jumps with members of the U.S. Army “Golden Knights” Parachute Team.

Army is a viable career option with many monetary and career incentives. You can do anything in the Army, even sport parachute professionally, he said.

Reilly has flown upside down at 600 mph in an F-14, driven a stock car at 142 mph, gone scuba diving and competed against 107 women for a spot in the WNBA. After having done all that, Reilly said that doing a tandem jump with the Golden Knights was “the ultimate experience.”

“How do you beat this?” he asked.

Recreation and Fitness

MWR Web site - Find all the latest news on Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs, facilities and activities at www.portsamhoustonmwr.com.

Post Garage Sale - Find the perfect treasure or that special gift at the Post Garage Sale Dec. 6, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Mac Arthur Pavilion parking lot. For information or to sign up, call 221-2926.

Intramural Leagues:
For information on the following leagues, call 221-1180.

Bowling - Letters of intent are due Dec. 5, coaches meeting will be held Dec. 12, 1 p.m., at the Bowling Center. Season starts Jan. 5.

Ping Pong - Letters of intent are due Jan. 2, coaches meeting will be held Jan. 9, 1 p.m. at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. Season starts Jan. 16.

Billiards - Letters of intent are due Jan. 2, coaches meeting will be held Jan.



9, 1 p.m. at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. Season starts Jan. 16.

Fitness Programs:
For information on the following programs, call Lucian Kimble at 221-2020.

Weight Loss Classes - Weight loss classes are held every Tuesday from 10-10:30 a.m. and 5-5:30 p.m.

Karate Classes - The Jimmy Brought Fitness Center offers Karate classes every Tuesday from 6:45-8:15 p.m. and every Friday from 6-7:30 p.m. Initiation fee is \$80 and includes uniform and belt; \$45 per month and \$35 per family member. For information, call Al Francis at 264-1391 or Lucian Kimble at 221-2020.

On-going Fitness Programs - Biking, Walking for Lunch Bunch, Stairmaster, Bench Press Programs are just a few of the fitness programs available at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center.

Run/Walk for Your Life Program - Get in shape and stay in shape with this self-paced, progressive distance running program. Conducted in three phases, the Run/Walk for Your Life Program is designed to improve the physical fitness and general health of all participants.

60 Days of Fitness - A motivating fitness and weight loss program to help you safely lose 15 pounds in 60 days using a point system. This self-paced program requires you to workout 45 out of 60 days and includes a seven-page fitness assessment, body fat analysis and body measurements. You will also

attend two 30-minute weight loss classes. Cost for the program is \$20, which includes a t-shirt.

Swim Across Texas Program - This program is designed as a motivator to start and continue a fitness swimming routine. This program will track the distance you swim and give you credit for each 1,000 meters completed at either of the Fort Sam Houston pools. Swimmers may use training aids such as snorkels, pull buoys, fins, and paddles and kick boards to complete the workout. Swimmers will be awarded prizes as they progress.



Morale, Welfare and Recreation Facilities’ Holiday Hours

	Nov. 27	Nov. 28	Nov. 29-30
Library	Closed	11 a.m. to 8 p.m.	11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Equipment Center	Closed	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Closed
Jimmy Brought	Closed	9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.	9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Auto Craft	Closed	1-9 p.m.	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Equestrian Center	Closed	7 a.m. to 6 p.m.	7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Camp Bullis	Closed	4 a.m. to 9 p.m.	4 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Canyon Lake	8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Hacienda	11 a.m. to 10 p.m.	11 a.m. to 10 p.m.	11 a.m. to 10 p.m.
RV Park	Closed	9 a.m. to 4 p.m.	10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Youth Happenings

Exploring Life for Middle School Students

- Youth Services offers an After School program for Middle School youth grades 6-9. This program is held Monday-Friday after school until 6 p.m. YS will pick up the child from the school (Elementary or the Jr./Sr. High School) and transport him to the Youth Center. At the center, the child will have a snack, work on homework, and participate in clubs activities and other fun innovative projects. One of the best features of this program is that this is a free program. Youth must be registered with Child and Youth Services at a \$15 annual fee, but there is no cost for the after school program for Middle School and high school students. For

information, call 221-3502.

YS Volunteers sought - YS is always looking for volunteers to assist with youth programs. We need coaches, computer skilled people, crafty people and those that just care about kids. If you have a special interest or hobby that you would like to share with kids, you can share it at the Youth Center. For information, call the Youth Center at 221-3502 and ask for Jeanne.

Basketball Registration - Youth Services Basketball Registration now through Dec. 5. Birth certificates, and physicals are required to register. For information, call 221-3502.

Scholarship applications now being accepted

Established in 1992, the Bernard P. Randolph Scholarship Fund supports college-bound seniors or full- and part-time college students in the San Antonio military, civilian, or dependent community. Independent evaluators will judge 600-800 word essays. Applications may be obtained at Brooks City-Base, Lackland and Randolph Air Force Bases and Fort Sam Houston libraries, education offices, or Family

Support Centers.

Applications and essays are due at 1 p.m., February 4, 2004. The scholarships will range from \$500 to \$1,000 and will be awarded at the Scholarship Luncheon, February 25, 2004, 11:15 a.m. at Brooks Air Force Base. For more information, call Lt. Lorrie C. Carter at 536-4896 or Lt. Goldie Boone at 536-6727 or visit the Web site www.brooks.af.mil/aaca/.

Military Family Art Contest

Show off your military family in a colorful drawing!

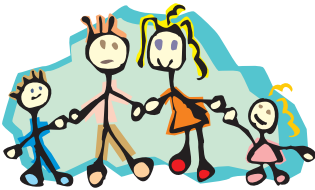
- Beginning Nov. 15, artwork can be dropped off and will be displayed in the Roadrunner Community Center.

- Artwork submitted by Dec. 12, will be judged in a Fort Sam Houston Military Family Art Contest.

- Dec. 15 - 1st, 2nd, 3rd prizes will be awarded in each grade category (K-6) during a Young Artist's Reception, hosted by AFTB in recognition of Army Family Team Building Day. The reception will be held in the Roadrunner Community Center, Bldg. 2797, from 4:30-5:30 p.m.

- All entries will then be forwarded to the 9th annual Armed Services YMCA art contest in support of Military Family Month 2004.

- For contest entry forms and guidelines, stop by ACS in the Roadrunner Community Center, Bldg 2797.



Dear Parents...

**Do your children
need a safety helmet?**



Soldiers medics complete more than 100 years of combined service

During a consolidated retirement ceremony held Thursday at MacArthur parade field, the following soldiers announced their retirement from military service:

Col. Milton R. Scholze, U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, retires following more than 32 years of military service effective Dec. 31.

On May 2, 1972, Scholze joined the Missouri Army National Guard. He completed Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., in the fall of 1972. His first unit of assignment was the 203rd Engineer Battalion (Construction) in Joplin, Mo.

He attended Officer Candidate School and was commissioned a second lieutenant, Corps of Engineers, on August 10, 1974. Shortly after commissioning, he accepted a new position with his civilian employer resulting in a move to Indiana. He then transferred to the Indiana ARNG and was assigned as the equipment platoon leader for the 128th General Supply Company (General Support), Camp Atterbury, Ind. In 1975, he was assigned as acting commander and property book officer for the 1338th Military Police Company (Hospital Security) also located at Camp Atterbury. In 1976, he was promoted by his employer and given a new assignment in Oklahoma. He transferred his ARNG affiliation to the Oklahoma ARNG and branch transferred to the Medical Service Corps. His first assignment was in Oklahoma City with the 245th Medical Company (Clearing) as a platoon leader. In 1979, he joined the battalion headquarters staff of the 120th Medical Battalion, also in Oklahoma City, where he served as S-4 (Logistics) and later as assistant S-2/3 (Intelligence and Operations).

On June 22, 1983, with the consent of the governor of Oklahoma, Scholze entered the Active Guard Reserve program as an ROTC assistant professor of Military Science at the University of Southern Colorado in Pueblo. In September of 1985, he was transferred to Washington, D.C. where he became the chief, Marketing and Advertising Branch at the National Guard Bureau's Recruiting and Retention Management Center. In 1987, he was honored with a Gold Award from the Houston International Film Festival for his recruiting film "Aviation." In 1988, after international competition, he earned a Silver Screen Award for outstanding creativity from the U.S. Film and Video Festival for another film, "Basic Training."

In May of 1989, Scholze was selected for assignment at the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Under then Defense Secretary Dick Cheney, he served as the Operations Officer for the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. In January of 1993, he reported to the Army Medical Department Center and School as ARNG Training Development Officer. One year later, he was assigned as Senior ARNG Advisor for the AMEDD Center and School. In October of 1995, he was appointed to a newly created position at the South Central Health Service Support Area, now known as the Great Plains Regional Medical Command. He served there as Senior ARNG Advisor consulting with the Adjutants General of sixteen ARNG State Commands. In March of 1999, Scholze returned to the AMEDD Center and School to serve again as Senior ARNG Advisor.

Scholze's officer military education includes the Engineer Officer Basic



Photo by Rudy Flowers

Left to right, Sgt. 1st Class Tony D. Wilkerson, U.S. Army South, Sgt. Maj. Victor D. Cartagena, U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, Maj. Russell P. Smutz, U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, and Col. Milton R. Scholze, U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School retired from military service at a ceremony held at MacArthur parade field on Thursday.

Course, the AMEDD Officer Basic Course, the AMEDD Officer Advanced Course, and the Command and General Staff Officer Course. He carries the additional skill identifiers of Public Affairs Officer and Plans, Operations and Training Officer. Scholze graduated from Missouri Southern State University with a bachelor of arts degree in speech communication and theatre in 1972. He earned a master of education degree in College Student Personnel Services from the University of Oklahoma in 1979.

His military awards and decorations include The Office of the Secretary of Defense Identification Badge, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal with six Oak Leaf Clusters, the National Defense Service Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with Hour Glass, and the Army Service Ribbon.

His state awards and decorations include the Oklahoma National Guard Long Service Medal (20 years), the Missouri National Guard Emergency Service Ribbon and the Missouri National Guard Basic Training Ribbon. He is a member of The National Guard Association of the United States and The National Guard Association of Oklahoma.

Scholze is actively involved with the Children's Association for Maximum Potential (C.A.M.P.), an organization that serves children with special needs. He is a member of the C.A.M.P. Board of Directors. He is president of the San Antonio Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Order and a Master Mason.

Scholze, his wife Cheryl, and their daughter live in San Antonio, Texas.

Maj. Russell P. Smutz, U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, retires following 25 years of military service effective Dec. 1.

Smutz enlisted in the Army in 1971 and completed Basic Combat Training at Fort Knox, Ky. His Advanced Individual Training as a Combat Medic, and then as a Clinical Specialist was completed at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and Fort Lewis, Wash. His first duty assignment, in 1972, was Walter Reed Army Medical Center where he worked in the Medical Intensive Care Unit. Smutz left the Service in 1974.

In 1983, following a year with the Rhode Island National Guard, Smutz re-

entered the Army and attended Primary Flight Training at Fort Rucker, Ala. He was appointed as a Warrant Officer in 1984 and was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Ky. He served as a pilot for the 507th Transportation Company and Alpha Company, 159th Aviation Battalion.

In 1986, Smutz received a direct commission as a Medical Service Corps Officer. He was assigned to D Company (Air Ambulance), 326th Medical Battalion, Fort Campbell, as the Aviation Maintenance platoon leader. In 1990 he was assigned as to the 377th Medical Company (Air Ambulance), Republic of Korea, as the Aviation Maintenance platoon leader, and in 1992 was assigned to the 568th Medical Company where he served as company commander. In 1993 he was assigned to the Division Medical Operations Center, 2nd Armor Division, Fort Hood, Texas. Finally, in 1998, after a three-year assignment as a long-term civilian education student, Smutz was assigned to the Directorate of Combat and Doctrine Development, where he served as the chief of the Systems Branch, Medical Information Systems Division.

His military education includes the Warrant Officer Candidate Course, the AMEDD Officer Basic Course, the Aviation Logistics Officers Course, the Aviation Officer Advanced Course, and the Combined Armed Service Staff School. He has earned a bachelor of science degree from Denison University, Granville, Ohio, a master of science degree from Murray State University, Murray, Ky., and a doctor of philosophy degree from Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas.

His military awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Achievement Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Overseas Service Ribbon, the Senior Army Aviator Badge, The Expert Field Medical Badge, and the Air Assault Badge.

Smutz is married to the former Susan Hill and they have two children.

Sgt. Maj. Victor D. Cartagena, U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, retires following 26 years of military service effective Nov. 30.

Cartagena completed Basic Combat Training February 8, 1978, at Fort Jackson, S.C. His Advanced Individual Training as a 76D Quartermaster Supply

Specialist was completed at Fort Lee, Va. His first duty assignment, in 1978, was with the 25th Combat Aviation Battalion, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, where he worked as a supply specialist in the maintenance section. In 1980, Cartagena, reclassified as a 91R Veterinary Specialist and was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, Ky., where he worked as the NCOIC of the Veterinary Section, with subsequent assignment as the NCOIC, Veterinary Depot Section, DLA Defense Depot, Memphis, Tenn.

In 1983, Cartagena was deployed to Honduras, Central America where he worked as the NCOIC of the San Lorenzo, Mobile Support Team (VS). Upon completion of his Honduras deployment in 1984, he returned to Fort Campbell, Ky. In 1986, Cartagena was reassigned from Fort Campbell, Ky., to Grunstadt, Germany, where he worked as the NCOIC, Mobile Support Team Delta, 64th Medical Detachment (VS). In 1988, he was assigned as the NCOIC of the Kaiserslautern, Supply Point and as team leader of Mobile Support Team Charlie (VS). Kaiserslautern, Germany.

In 1989, he was reassigned to Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Aberdeen, Md., where he worked as the NCOIC of the Veterinary Treatment Facility. In 1993, Cartagena was reassigned to 6th Infantry Division (LT), Fort Wainwright, Alaska, where he worked as the first sergeant, Alaska District Veterinary Command. In 1996, Cartagena was reassigned to the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif., where he served as first sergeant, Southern District Veterinary Command.

In 1998, he was selected for sergeant major and attendance to the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy. Upon graduation from the Sergeants Major Academy he was assigned as the deputy commandant of the AMEDD Noncommissioned Officer Academy at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. In 2001, Cartagena was assigned to the AMEDD Leader Training Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Where he served as the department sergeant major until his retirement.

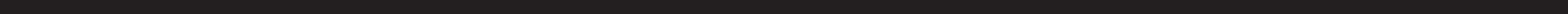
Cartagena's military education includes the Primary Leadership Course, Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course, the Advanced Noncommissioned officers Course, First Sergeants Course, Battle Staff NCO Course, and he is a graduate of Class 50 of the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy. He has earned an associate of science degree from the University of New York, a bachelor's degree in education from Wayland Baptist University, and a master's degree in business administration from Trinity Southern University.

His military awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, the Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal with bronze star, the NCO Professional Development Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon, the Army Service Ribbon, and the Air Assault Badge.

Cartagena is married to the former Karen Rene Ford and they have three children

Sgt. 1st Class Tony D. Wilkerson, U.S. Army South, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, retires following 22 years of military service effective January 1, 2004.

Wilkerson completed Basic Combat Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. His Advanced Individual Training as a





Coy Eklund, a surviving member of Gen. George S. Patton, Jr.'s staff, talks about his experiences with Patton.

Sue Cotton (left), the Fifth Army Deputy Public Affairs Officer, greets the surviving members of Gen. George S. Patton's, Jr.'s staff upon their arrival at the historic Quadrangle on Nov. 12. Ed Stinemeyer (center) is the oldest member of the group at 94-and-a-half years old.

Patton's wartime staff visits FSH for reunion

Story and photos by
Master Sgt. C.S. Allbright
Fifth U.S. Army Public Affairs

Surviving members of Gen. George S. Patton, Jr.'s wartime staff recently gathered in San Antonio for what may be one of their last reunions. The group of 18 World War II veterans and 29 family members toured the Army post and other San Antonio locations as part of their week-long trip.

On Nov. 12, the veterans, along with their adult children and younger grandchildren, stopped by the Fifth U.S. Army headquarters and the historic Quadrangle. The Quadrangle was where many of the veterans were stationed more than sixty years ago before assembling in England to form Patton's Third Army staff. Patton took command of the Third Army in 1944 after having commanded the Seventh Army.

During the group's visit to the Quadrangle, Maj. Gen. Robert T. Clark, Fifth U.S. Army's acting commanding general, gave them a briefing. "It is a special treat to have you here a day after Veterans Day," Clark said. "They call you the greatest generation for a reason -- you are the greatest generation." Clark told the veterans that they could be proud of today's Soldiers who are as capable, determined and dedicated as any this country

has ever known.

After the formal briefing, Clark turned the tables on the veterans: "Now, you tell us some of your stories." Like the pilgrims from Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales," one-by-one several veterans stood up and told anecdotes about day-to-day dealings with "Old Blood and Guts." Each story was met with resounding applause.

Ed Stinemeyer, 94, from Bakersfield, Calif., was the oldest member present for the reunion. During the war, he ran war room operations. Stinemeyer said Patton ran a "spic-and-span operation" everywhere, especially in the war room. "He could come into the war room at any time and if the maps weren't up to date, he'd let us know," Stinemeyer said. "He was a great man, and everybody moved whenever he expressed a desire to do anything."

"Blackie" Zurlo, a mess sergeant, told a story in which he commandeered three captured German rations trucks and gave the supplies to a church in France for orphans and refugees. Zurlo said that Patton chastised him not for doing it, but for getting caught.

Coy Eklund said that he would imitate Patton's walk and high-pitched voice for the other men on the staff. "In the movie ('Patton'), George C. Scott wisely chose not to imitate his voice," said Eklund, who was a personnel officer during the war.

Eklund expressed his admiration, belief and loyalty to Patton as a great officer, leader and man, which echoed much of what was said and felt about Patton.

Patton's surviving staff members first started to get together regularly in 1985. At that time, about 120 people were connected with the group. They started meeting periodically in places like Atlanta, Ga., New Orleans, La., and Fort Knox, Ky. In 1998, they arranged a trip to Europe to retrace the steps of the Third Army's march through France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Austria, Germany and Czechoslovakia in 1944 and 1945.

The group has grown to be "like family." Several widows, like Trudy McDonald, continue to come because of the strength the friendship have forged over the years of the reunions.

The families of these veterans listen to the stories and "capture a part of history not available in books, TV or the Internet," according to Melanie Bazarte of Del Ray Beach, Fla. Bazarte was born at the Brooke Army Medical Center, or "Brooke General Hospital," as it was called. "We won't know the history if it's not preserved for future generations," she said.

"They changed the world," said Denise Hood of Chicago, Ill., whose father-in-law was Patton's chief medical officer. "For them, it was not a question of whether or

not to serve -- they did it." Hood, who gets emotional when talking about the aging veterans, asked rhetorically, "Who wouldn't want to come and be a part of this?"

This Veterans Day would have been Patton's 118th birthday. Patton was born Nov. 11, 1885. He graduated from the U.S. Academy at West Point, and would go on to fight the first armored tank battles in World War I.

As part of the group's regular activities, they toasted Patton at a commemorative dinner. Patton died on December 21, 1945, from injuries he suffered in a traffic accident in Germany 12 days prior. He is buried in the Third Army cemetery in Hamm, Luxembourg, with Soldiers killed in the Battle of the Bulge.

Family members join the group, and often generations keep coming. For one kid, whose grandfather was Patton's pilot, it is a chance to connect with the memory of his grandfather through the eyes of the men he served with in combat.

Several family members remarked about how every year there are fewer and fewer of these veterans, and they are losing a piece of living history. Each of the veterans has a unique story to tell, and they seemed eager for someone to hear it before their voices faded into the unwritten history of a very long and bloody war.



A group of 18 surviving members of Gen. George S. Patton, Jr.'s staff receive a briefing by Maj. Gen. Robert T. Clark, Fifth U.S. Army acting commander, during a tour of the historic Quadrangle on Nov. 12. Many of the Soldiers who formed Patton's Third Army staff originated from Fort Sam Houston.



Photos by Esther Garcia
Staff Sgt. Gerardo Rodriguez gives a big welcome hug to fellow soldier Spec. Leslie Shelton as members of the unit arrive to the welcome party at the post Officer's Club.

Sgt. Ramiro Barrientos meets his niece Brianna for the first time following his 10-month deployment to Iraq.

628th Forward Surgical Team returns home

By Phil Reidinger
Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs

The 628th Forward Surgical Team assigned to the 228th Combat Support Hospital (U.S. Army Reserve) returned from Iraq on Tuesday. The team activated and deployed in February 2003 and supported the 1st Armored Division and the 82nd Airborne Division.

The Forward Surgical Team performs triage and pre-operative resuscitation, initial surgery and post-operative care on the battle-field. The 20 person team is capable of performing essential surgeries for a maximum of 32 patients within 72 hours and post-operative nursing care for medical evacuations.

The unit also possesses the capability to continue post-operative care for 30 critical wounded patients for a 72-hour period with its organic medical equipment. The team has the capability to sustain post-operative acute nursing for eight patients.



Photo by Esther Garcia
Sgt. Arlyne Betancourt receives a warm welcome from her mother Ester, father Richard, brothers Arron and Allen, and niece Arrianna.



Photo by Esther Garcia
Members of the U.S. Army Medical Command Band welcome back the 628th Forward Surgical Team from Iraq.

Capt. Tom Duncan with daughter Hanna Rose enjoys opportunity to explain unit accomplishment with local media.



Photo by Esther Garcia

Members of the Escaramuza Rosas de Castilla, an equestrienne drill team known for their bareback and sidesaddle riding skills, will perform during the Pony Express Christmas Courier Grand Finale and Fair held Dec. 6, at MacArthur parade field.

Retirees

Continued from Page 14

Medical Supply Specialist was completed at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. His first assignment, in 1982 was Headquarters, U.S. Army Armor Center, Fort Knox, Ky., where he worked in the 42nd Field Hospital. In 1984, he was assigned to Headquarters, 7th Medical Command in Vicenza, Italy, as a medical supply specialist.

Upon completion of his overseas tour in 1986, Wilkerson was assigned to the U.S. AMEDDAC, Fort Polk, La., where he worked as the NCOIC of the Service Branch, Logistics Division, Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital, Fort Polk, La. In 1989, Wilkerson was transferred to the 7th Medical Command, U.S. Army Medical Materiel Center, Europe, where he was NCOIC of the Repack Branch and Airline of Communication in the Receiving Division. In December 1990, he deployed to Desert Shield/Desert Storm with the 428th Medical Supply, Optical and Maintenance Battalion where he served five months.

Upon completion of his combat tour in May 1991, Wilkerson returned to Germany with subsequent assignment in inventory management as the NCOIC. In 1992, he was assigned as NCOIC Warehouse Company, 2d Forward Support Battalion, Camp Hovey, Korea, where he served as platoon sergeant. In July 1996, he

was assigned to Brooke Army Medical Center, Logistics Division, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, with duties as NCOIC of the Property Management, Materiel Branch, Provost Marshal and the Logistics Division. In August 2001, he was assigned to Command Surgeon Office, U.S. Army South, Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico, where he served as the Logistics Manager Officer.

Wilkerson’s military education includes the Primary Leadership Development Course, Basis Noncommissioned Officer Course, the Supervisor Development Course, the Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course, and the Facilities Management Course. He has earned an associate of liberal arts from Excelsior College, Albany, N.Y., and Certificates of Completion in

Logistics and Warehouse Management from Palo Alto College, San Antonio, Texas.

His military awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, the Good Conduct Medal (7th award), the National Defense Service Medal, the NCO Professional Development Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon, the Army Service Ribbon, the Driver Badge, and the Southwest Asia Medal with three Bronze Stars.

Wilkerson is married to the former Cora D. (Fair) Knox and they have two children.

Pony Express rides to FSH, Dec. 6

The 154th Annual Pony Express Christmas Courier Run Grand Finale and fair will be held Saturday, Dec. 6, 1-5 p.m. at Fort Sam Houston, MacArthur parade field pavilion, corner of Harry Wurzbach and Stanley Road.

Enjoy food, crafts, fun activities and information booths by the Texas Department of Agriculture “Go Texan” vendors plus the Institute of Texas Cultures, the University of Texas San Antonio Center for Archaeological Research, the San Antonio Botanical Gardens, and the Pioneer (Texas Ranger) Museum. There will also be a vintage car display and post garage sale. A temporary U.S. Postal Station will be available with a Pony Express cancellation for your cards and letters. The Fort Sam Houston Riding Stables will provide \$3 pony rides.

Beginning at 2 p.m. a special free three-hour program featuring the Escaramuza Rosas de Castilla exciting and beautiful bareback and side-saddle equestrienne drills and the Guadalupe County Sheriff’s Mounted Posse rodeo drills and the demonstration of pony express mail transfer.

Other participants include the Texas National Guard, 49th Armored Division Band, the Cadence Cloggers, the Six Flags of Texas posted on horseback by Connections Living History, a black powder volley by the Granaderos de Galvez, Buffalo Soldiers, Ballet Folklorico, Native American Dance and Flute Solo and the delivery of the Texas Governor’s Holiday Message to San Antonio, by more than 120 Pony Express riders as the 49th Armored Division Band plays “cavalry traveling music.”

Post worship schedule

Main Post Chapel, Bldg. 2200, phone numbers: (210) 221-2779 or 221-2754.

Protestant Services - Sundays:

- 8 a.m. - Traditional Protestant
- 11 a.m. - Traditional Protestant

Catholic Services:

- 4:45-5:15 p.m. - Confessions - Saturdays
- 5:30 p.m. - Mass - Saturdays
- 9:30 a.m. - Mass - Sundays
- 11:30 a.m. - Mass - Weekdays

Jewish Services: phone numbers: (210) 379-8666 or 493-6660.

Fridays: 8 p.m. - Worship and 8:30 p.m. - Oneg Shabbat



Dodd Field Chapel, Bldg. 1721, phone numbers: (210) 221-5010 or 221-5432.

Catholic Services - Sundays:

12:30 p.m. - Bilingual Mass

Protestant Services:

- 8 a.m. - Contemporary Protestant - Sundays
- 10:30 a.m. - Collective Gospel Protestant - Sundays
- 9:30-11:30 a.m. - Women’s Bible Study (PWOC) - Wednesdays, childcare is provided



AMEDD Regimental Chapel & Evan’s Auditorium, Bldg. 1398, phone numbers: (210) 221-3390 or 221-4210.

Catholic Services: Sundays:

9:15 a.m. - 32nd Medical Bde. Soldiers

Protestant Gospel Services: Sundays:

11:30 a.m. - 32nd Medical Bde. Soldiers

Evan’s Auditorium:

- 9:15 a.m. - 32nd Medical Bde. Soldiers Protestant Service
- 11:30 a.m. - Troop Gospel Service



FSH Mosque, Bldg. 607A, phone numbers: (210) 221-5005 or 221-5007.

- 1:30 p.m. - Jumma - Fridays
- 10:30 a.m. - Children’s Religious Education - Sundays
- 7:30 p.m. - Adult Religious Education - Thursdays

232nd Medical Battalion Classroom, Bldg. 1380, phone numbers: (210) 221-5005 or 221-5007. **Mormon Services:** 10:30 a.m. - Sundays

Web site: www.cs.amedd.army.mil/chaplain

Advent Workshop

Saturday, Nov. 29, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Dodd Field Chapel & Family Life Center

Supplies will be available for making live green wreaths and several other Advent decorations. Please bring clippers to cut your greens. This is a “Come and Go” family event. For more information, contact Robb at 221-5428. A small donation will offset the cost of supplies. Everyone is welcome.



Donate to HHH and help bring smiles to FSH families

Holiday Helping Hand Gift-Wrap booth located next to the Main PX begins operating Nov. 28 through Dec. 23, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. During this time, all gifts will be wrapped and patrons will have the opportunity to donate to the HHH fund. Volunteers are needed to staff the gift-wrap booth for a full day or half day. To volunteer, call Emily Cunningham at 657-1896. Donation may also be sent to HHH, P.O. Box 340218, Fort Sam Houston, Texas 78234. For information, call Tom May at 221-3283 or visit the Web site: www.holidayhelpinghands.org.

Officer Christian Fellowship Bible study group

Are you interested in a Bible study? Join the Officer Christian Fellowship study group at the home of Lt. Col. Bob Griffith, 1008 Gorgas Circle, on Fridays. Come for supper at 6 p.m. or join us at 7 p.m. for a study of the Gospel of Luke.

For information, call Lt. Col. Griffith at 226-1295 or e-mail thegrif-gang@cs.com or Chaplain Schlichter at 221-1968 or e-mail david.schlichter@cen.amedd.army.mil.

Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program December Class Schedule		
Class	Dates	Time
And..Away We Grow	8	10-11:30 a.m.
Anger Management Awareness	3	Noon to 1 p.m.
Basics of Breastfeeding	17	10:30 a.m. to Noon
Boys Only! Ages 6-8	3	3-4 p.m.
	Ages 9-10	3-4 p.m.
Building Effective Anger Management Skills (B.E.A.M.S.) (Series 4-6)	4, 11, 18	11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Conflict Management	12	Noon to 1 p.m.
Coping with Difficult People	3	11 a.m. to Noon
Divorce Care	2, 9	11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Duffle Bags for Babies (DBFB)	3, 10	8 a.m. to Noon
Family Advocacy Commander's Training	18	8-9:30 a.m.
Girl Talk! Ages 9-10	10	3-4 p.m.
Helping Us Grow Securely (H.U.G.S.) Playgroup	2, 9, 16	9-11 a.m.
Pregnancy and Childbirth	11	9 a.m. to Noon
Stress Management I and II	9, 16	12:30-2 p.m.
Teen Talk	4, 11, 18	4-5 p.m.
Truth or Consequences	2	4-5 p.m.
Note: To sign up for classes or for more information, please call ACS Family Advocacy Program at 221-0349 or 221-2418.		

Fort Sam Houston ISD Weekly Campus Activities Dec. 1-6

Fort Sam Houston Elementary School

Thursday, Dec. 4

- PTO Board Meeting, 11:30 a.m.
- Band Concert at Evans Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 5

- Spirit Day

Robert G. Cole Jr./Sr. High School

Monday, Dec. 1

- Cougar Pride Executive Meeting in Library, 5:30 p.m.
- ATSSB Region Auditions at La Vernia, TBA

Tuesday, Dec. 2

- ASVAB Testing, TBA
- Girls and Boys Soccer vs TMI at Cole, 5 and 7 p.m.
- Girls Basketball vs Pearsall at Cole, 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- Boys Basketball at Poteet, 6 and 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 3


- Fine Arts Field Trip to Houston Fine Arts Museum, All day
- Retirement Reception for Dr. Anne Kiehle at FSH Officers' Club, 4-6 p.m.
- JROTC Annual Battalion Drill Competition, TBA

Thursday, Dec. 4

- Girls Varsity Basketball Tourney at Hondo, TBA

Friday, Dec. 5

- Girls Junior Varsity Basketball Tourney at Somerset, TBA
- Boys Varsity Basketball Tourney at Hondo, TBA
- South Zone Prelim Finals Swim Meet at Davis Natatorium, 5 p.m.
- Girls Soccer vs Providence at Cole, 4:30 p.m.



Child and Youth Services offer program opportunities for military families

Certified FCC providers available - Family Child Care offers home-based childcare for ages 4 weeks to 12 years on and off post with certified providers. Types of care are full day, part day, before and after school care, hourly care, extended hours care and long term care. Referral information and child registration are available at Child and Youth Services Central Registration, 221-4871. FCC is looking for family members interested in becoming certified FCC providers to offer home based childcare. There is a no-cost start up plan. For more information, call 221-3820 or 221-3828.

CDC has full day openings - Child Development Center has immediate full day opening for children ages 3-5. To register,

patrons will need to present immunization records including Hepatitis A and a copy of a Leave and Earnings Statement. Fees range from \$181 - \$522 per month and are assessed by calculating total family income. For more information or to register, call Central Registration at 221-4871 or 221-1723.

3-Day Part Day Preschool enrollments - The 3-Day Part Day Preschool has been placed on hold due to lack of enrollment numbers. If you are interested and have questions concerning the 3-Day Part Day Preschool Program, notify Central Registration to place your name on a list. Fees will range from \$151 - \$200 per month and will be assessed by calculating total family income.

Wait List for full day care - If your child's name is on the Wait List for full day care, check the status of the list every 90 days from the day you complete the form; otherwise your child's name will be purged from the list. To check your status, call Central Registration 221-4871 or 221-1723.

After school and weekend open recreation available at SAS - School Age Services (Kindergarten - 5th grade) offers after school and weekend open recreation opportunities and after school hourly care options. Hourly care and open recreation must be reserved in advance by calling School Age Services at 221-4466. Children must be registered through Central Registration prior to utilizing the School Age program. To register, call Central Registration at 221-4871 or 221-1723.

Instructional classes available - If you are interested in instructional classes such as Tae Kwon Do, piano or gymnastics, call 221-4882 or 221-4871.

Holiday childcare services - The Fort Sam Houston Child Development Center will be open 6 p.m. to midnight for evening holiday functions. Reservations and pre-payment are required. For more information, call the Child Development Center at 221-5002 or 221-4058.

2004 ACAP Civilian Workshop Schedule

The Army Career and Alumni Program staff conduct Resume Writing and Interviewing Workshops for DoD civilian employees and their family members who may be contemplating leaving federal service. The monthly workshops are scheduled now until the implementation of the Most Efficient Organization (MEO).

Workshop dates include: Dec. 10, Jan. 28, Feb. 11 and March 10. For information or to register, call 221-1213.

Note: Workshops will be cancelled and clients rescheduled if there are less than 10 confirmed attendees one week prior to the scheduled workshop. Register now and get your friends/coworkers to do the same. Additional sessions will be scheduled if necessary.

Fort Freebies

Freebies are published on a first come, first serve basis. Commercial advertisements are prohibited. The deadline is noon Monday. Freebies are intended for personal household goods and privately owned property, and may only be submitted by active, retired or reserve component military members and civilian employees working on Fort Sam Houston. To submit paid classified ads or commercial advertising, contact Prime Time at 453-3300. To submit a Fort Freebie, e-mail to: news.leader@samhouston.army.mil or fax to 221-1198. Ensure your military/Fort Sam Houston civil service status, phone number and name appears on request.



For Sale: 2000 white Toyota Solara Coupe, V-6, AT, 74K miles, like new \$9,800; 2000 Mercury Mountaineer Monterey, V-8, black/gold, tan leather, 58K miles, like new, \$12,500. Call 545-5100 or 262-8171.

For Sale: Nikon 5700 digital camera never used, new \$999, asking \$750. Call 262-2370.

For Sale: 1996 Chevy Cavalier 2.2L 4-door, automatic, A/C, ABS, stereo, CD, new tires, brakes and water pump, 87K miles, \$3,495. Call 494-7849 or 916-2937.

For Sale: Large sectional couch, good condition, dark hunter green with abstract floral in cream and burgundy, \$200 obo; leather couch and loveseat dusty rose near new condition, \$280 firm. Safari Van 92, front rear A/C, power windows and doors, new tires, runs great, 110,000 highway miles, \$2,800, available after Thanksgiving; 2001 Toyota Tacoma, double cab, V6, 41K miles, PW, PL, trailer package, many more options. \$17,350. Call 771-2406.

For Sale: Beautiful 2,400 sq. ft., 4-br 2 and a half bath, 4 side brick home in North Hampton subdivision, fenced, landscaped, many amenities, immaculate, \$115,000, located at 8010 Talkenhorn, Converse, Texas. Call Kim or Tim at 226-4766 or 373-9365 or 410-4381.

For Sale: Sanyo microwave oven still in original box, \$60; rims with almost new tires, 4 each (15”) for 98 Jeep Grand Cherokee, \$200; New Schlage home security System with remote control, unopened, \$70; 1994 Suzuki

GSX-R 750 sport bike, custom painted includes gloves, 2 helmets, jacket, battery charger; runs great; \$3,300 obo. Call 493-8420.

For Sale: Motorized wheelchair with hand control, variable speed, like new, \$4,800. Call 872-6224.

For Sale: Black GE 30” gas cook top stove, never used, \$150; Jennair 30” cook top, almost new, \$200. Call 656-3289.

For Sale: 2 vacuum cleaners; Hoover Self-Propelled Upright, \$65; Hoover Cannister (Demension 1000) with retractable cord, \$50. Call 662-8942.

Lost: Set of keys to car and home including auto remote on Wednesday, Nov. 12 at the Roadrunner Community Center during the Flu Shot Clinic. If found, call 223-7884.

Career Clips



The Army Career and Alumni Program office provides numerous services to eligible people in transition including job assistance. Information on these and other positions is available to ACAP customers in the ACAP office, Bldg. 2264 or call 221-1213.

Patient Financial Services Manager - San Antonio. Designing activities after billing and collecting from all third party payors. Maintain a commitment to pre-billing and billing compliance. Conducts continuous quality appraisals on Third Party.

Health Services Administrator - San Marcos. Responsible for the management of the Wellness Clinic which includes medical, mental health, and dental care for students, sick call, infirmary coverage, AODA counseling, environmental health, physical, and dental examinations and providing special health programs.

Pathologists Assistant - San Antonio. Candidates must have or be eligible for AAPA Fellow status. Duties include grossing, QI, QA monitoring and autopsy on call services on a rotational basis.

Data Management Specialist - San Antonio. Perform basic computer operations and data entry work. Enters case data into an MS Access XP database. Maintain required data pertaining to CRSC applications. Review and adjudicate CRSC applications.

Monday Night Football

The Fort Sam Houston Golf Club offers Monday Night Football and “All You Can Eat Pizza” while you watch the game. The cost is \$7 per person and non-military guests are welcome. Come early and hit golf balls at the Driving Range before the game kicks off.



For more information, call 221-4388.



Community events

Harlequin presents ‘My Three Angels,’ now through Dec. 20

The Harlequin Dinner Theatre at Fort Sam Houston will present “My Three Angels,” a comedy by Sam and Bella Spewak, Wednesday through Saturday evenings now through Dec. 20. Prices are \$25.95 on Friday and Saturday and \$22.95 on Wednesday and Thursday. Discounts are available for military and students. Cocktails and salad bar are served at 6:15 p.m., dinner from 6:30-7:30 p.m. and show time is 8 p.m. For reservations, call 222-9694 or visit the theatre in advance. The box office is open Monday through Friday from noon to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 1 to 5 p.m. Theatre is handicapped accessible.

Selma Pathfinders Volksmarch Club Walk, Nov. 29-30

The Selma Pathfinders Volksmarch club will host a 10-kilometer (6.2 miles) walk in the Helena “ghost town” starting in the town square on FM 81, Nov. 29 and 30. For information, visit the Web site at www.geocities.com/Yosemite/Gorge/8195/ or call Phyllis Eagan at 210-496-1402.

San Antonio Black Police Officer’s Christmas Extravaganza, Dec. 5

The San Antonio Black Police Officer’s Coalition will host the 3rd annual Christmas Extravaganza, Dec. 5 at Pueblo Hall, 3315 Northwestern. The event will feature a Christmas theme with music by Kristal & Silver and catered by Anthony. Doors open at 7 p.m, dinner will be served from 8-9:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 each or \$25 per couple. For tickets, call Willie Smith at 215-7332 or contact a Coalition member.

Randolph Roadrunners Volksmarch Club Walk, Dec. 6

The Randolph Roadrunners Volksmarch club will host a 10-kilometer (6.2 mile) walk starting at St. John Lutheran Church, 315 E. Rosewood Ave. in Boerne, Saturday, Dec. 6 between 8 a.m. and noon, finish by 3 p.m. For information contact Suzanne Markgraf at 651-9378 or e-mail at: markgraf@atkcpa.com.

Government Hill Historic District Christmas Tour, Dec. 7

The Government Hill Historic District invites the post community to visit historic homes in the area on Dec. 7, 1-5 p.m. The tour will include seven homes and turn of the century mansions, as well as the fire station, the Masonic Lodge, and the Bullis House. Transportation vans will provide a shuttle service at each location along the route. Tickets are available at the Mason Lodge on Grayson Street for \$15. Advance tickets for \$10, may be obtained by calling 822-3038 or 804-2024 or may be picked up at the Antonian Hotel. Proceeds of this annual Christmas tour of the Government Hill Historic District are use to fund neighborhood projects for elderly and disabled residents.

Alamo Chapter of ASMC Christmas Party, Dec. 9

The Alamo Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers will host a Christmas Party, Dec. 9 at the Randolph Officer’s Club (Sky Lounge Upstairs) from 5 to 7 p.m. The event is free to members and their guests. Bring a Teddy Bear (\$5 value) to donate to the Samm Shelter. For information, call Tech Sgt. Lorrice Jones, 652-6109 or e-mail lorrice.jones@randolph.af.mil

¿Que Pasa?

or Master Sgt. Frank Remington, Programs Chair at 652-5392 by Dec. 5.

S.A. Mastersingers open 2003-2004 Season, Dec. 20

The San Antonio Mastersingers open the 2003-2004 season with Handel’s Messiah on Dec. 20 at University United Methodist Church, with local symphony orchestra players and vocal soloists, Gail Wettstein, Cindy Sadler, Michael Burgess, and Timothy Jones. For information, call 366-3754 or visit their Web site at samastersingers.org.

Volunteers

Join Cub Scouts Pack 23

Join the adventure! Boys who are in first grade through 5th grade can be involved in scouting. The program provides common interest for the boys and their families. There’s fishing, swimming, archery, BB’s, pinewood derby cars and most of all camping. Come and join the fun! For information, call Cindy Mathis at 826-1730 or e-mail at cubscouts23@sbcglobal.net.

Otras Cosas

The ITBC Offices closed, Nov. 28

The ITBC Security Office and the Business Management and Deployment Divisions to include the Help Desk, will be closed Nov. 28. Processing of new accounts for LAN, Email, TSACS, or Installation Support Modules will be handled on an emergency basis only. All other ITBC offices will remain open. For information, call 445-4299 or 336-1943 or the Help Desk at 221-HELP.

TSP Open Season, now through Dec. 15

Thrift Savings Plan contribution percentages or dollar amount changes can be done via Internet at www.abc.army.mil or via telephone at 1-877-276-9287. Allocations of your investment can be changed via computer at www.tsp.gov. Thrift Savings Plan is one of the best benefits we have as government employees with matching government contributions to the Federal Employee Retirement System.

Thrift Savings Plan is a vital part of your three-part retirement program (Thrift Savings Plan, Social Security, and Pension). The Office of Personnel Management has advised employees under FERS who do not actively participate in Thrift Savings Plan contributions can expect a retirement annuity at or below poverty level. Congress is concerned that one quarter of employees under the FERS system are not contributing to the Thrift Savings Plan. The contribution limits will rise by another percentage point to 14 percent for FERS and 9 percent for CSRS employees this season.

Bernard Curtis Brown II Memorial NASA Space Camp Scholarship information available

Keith Toney, Fort Sam Houston School Liaison Officer, has information on the 2004 Bernard Curtis Brown II Memorial NASA Space Camp Scholarship. Bernard, the 11-year-old son of Chief Petty Officer and Mrs. Bernard Curtis Brown, was killed on September 11, 2001, when the hijacked airliner on which he was a passenger, crashed into the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. At the time, he was on his way to represent his school at a National Geographic event. The Military Child Education Coalition funds the scholarship. For information, call Keith Toney at 221-9613 or visit the MCEC Web site at www.spacecamp.com.

Direct commissioning program available

The U.S. Army Health Care Recruiting Team is looking for qualified applicants for their direct commissioning program. Anyone working toward a bachelors’ degree in any science, nursing, physics, nutrition or engineering may qualify to become an Army officer. Interested individuals can apply at anytime. The program is open to active duty, reserve, National Guard and civilians. For information, call Capt. Beverly S. Casiano at 692-7376 or 834-7879 or e-mail at

Beverly.Casiano@usarec.army.mil.

Check out the new improved ACAP Web site

The Army Career and Alumni Program Web page has been upgraded. There is much more information now available for transitioners, employers and Army leaders. All are encouraged to take a look at the Web site and see what might be useful to you, www.acap.army.mil.

In the classroom

Free computer training for family members

Family Member Employment Assistance offers free computer training for family members. Morning and afternoon training session are available on all Microsoft Office software and much more. Appointments are required. For information, call Pat Fory at 221-0516.

ESL classes for foreign-born spouses are back

English as a second language classes will be held every Monday and Wednesday, 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the Roadrunner Community Center, Bldg. 2797. These classes are for foreign-born spouses to increase reading comprehension, vocabulary, and pronunciation. Classes are appropriate for beginners, intermediate and advanced students. Region 20 Education Center and the Army Community Service Relocation Program sponsor classes. For information, call 221-2418.

Meetings

Installation Sergeant Audie Murphy Board set for Jan. 12

The next Installation Sergeant Audie Murphy Board will be held on January 12, 2004, in the AMEDD Center and School Conference Room, Room 305. For more information, see your unit’s First Sergeant or Command Sergeant Major.

Purple Heart veterans sought

Purple Heart Veterans are invited to join the meeting of Military Order of the Purple Heart on the first Saturday of every month, 9 a.m. at the Roadrunner Community Center to learn more about combat related entitlements and claims benefits. Registration begins at 9 a.m. Bring your DD For 214 and a short biography.

USAWOA - Lone Star Chapter meetings

The Lone Star Chapter of the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Association meets at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at VFW Post #8541, 2222 Austin Highway (between Eisenhower and Walzem Road). All active duty, retired, Reserve, National Guard and family members of current or former Warrant Officers are invited to attend. For information, call WO1 Matthew Watterson at 295-8773 or e-mail matthew.watterson@us.army.mil.

FSH Sergeants Major Association seeks new members

The Fort Sam Houston Sergeants Major Association meets every third Thursday of the month, 6 p.m. in the FSH NCO Club. Retired Sgt. Maj. Howard T. Ray, president of the association, extends a cordial invitation to all Active Duty and retired command sergeants major, sergeants major and master sergeants on the promotion list from all service branches to attend the meetings and share in the relaxed atmosphere of our social activities. For membership information, call Sgt. Maj. Hector Viczaino at 221-7305.

Calling all single Soldiers to join BOSS

The Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of every month, 1:30 p.m. at the Hacienda Recreation Center. The BOSS committee was established to provide Soldier input to the commander, who uses the committee’s recommendations to improve single Soldiers’ Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs. For information, call BOSS President Kimberly Vaughan at 916-1772 or BOSS Program Manager Ben Paniagua at 224-7250.